

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:
an image bearing body;
a developing member that causes developer to adhere to an electrostatic latent image formed on said image bearing body to form the electrostatic latent image into a visible image;
a developer-supplying member spaced a predetermined distance from said developing member and supplying the developer to said developing member; and
a voltage controller that applies a first voltage to said developing member and a second voltage to said developer-supplying member.
2. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the predetermined distance is in the range of 0.05 to 1.0 mm.
3. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said developing member and said developer-supplying member rotate in a same direction.
4. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein an absolute value of a difference between the first voltage and the second voltage is greater than 130 volts and lower than a voltage above which electrical discharge occurs across said developing member and said developer-supplying member.
5. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the second voltage has an absolute value in the range of 330 to 600 volts.
6. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said developing member and said developer-supplying member rotate in a same direction.

7. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said developer has a degree of cohesion equal to or lower than 25%.

8. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image bearing body;

a developing member that causes developer to adhere to an electrostatic latent image formed on said image bearing body to form the electrostatic latent image into a visible image;

a developer-supplying member spaced a predetermined distance from said developing member and supplying the developer to said developing member, said developer-supplying member having a surface with ridges and valleys formed therein.

9. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said developer-supplying member is made of an electrically conductive material.

10. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein the electrically conductive material is a metal.

11. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said developer-supplying member is made of a mixture of a resin and an electrically conductive material.

12. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the ridges and valleys extend in a direction parallel to a longitudinal axis of said developer-supplying member.

13. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein a distance between the ridges and the valleys is in the range of 10 to 1000 μm and ridges are formed at a pitch in the range of 10 to 1500 μm .

14. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said

developer-supplying member has a surface with a straight knurl.

15. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said developer-supplying member has a surface with a diamond knurl.

16. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said developer has a degree of cohesion equal to or lower than 25%.

17. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising a controller that supplies a first voltage to said developing member and a second voltage to said developer-supplying member.

18. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein an absolute value of a difference between the first voltage and the second voltage is greater than 130 volts and lower than a voltage above which electrical discharge occurs across said developing member and said developer-supplying member.

19. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein the second voltage has an absolute value of voltage in the range of 330 to 600 volts.

20. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the predetermined distance is in the range of 0.05 to 1.0 mm.